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ANNUAL REPORT

On the Health of

HERTFORD RURAL DISTRICT

1969



Report presented by
The Medical Officer of Health and The Senior Health Inspector
Hertford Rural District Council

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HERTFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report on the Health of the District for the Year 1969

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HERTFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1969.

P R E F A C E

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the health of your District for 1969.

Once again the health of the community remains at a very high level. The vital statistics compare favourably with previous years and with those for England and Wales. The infant mortality rate was 10 per thousand related live births, compared with the figure of 20 for 1968. There were 2 stillbirths last year.

1 case of Scarlet Fever was notified. 12 cases of Measles were notified and it should be stressed that although 1969 was not a "Measles Year", the reduction from 168 cases in 1968 is encouraging and leads one to hope that the public policy of Measles Vaccination is beginning to take effect. 2 cases of Salmonella Typhi-Murium were notified and 1 case of Brucellosis. In a Rural district with predominantly farming interests, this latter is a disease acquired from cows milk for which one must be constantly watchful. The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year stood at 48 - an increase of 4 during the year.

Examination of the Breakdown Analysis of Causes of Death, shows that Cancer of the lung caused the death of 7 males and 1 female. This disease was the cause of death in 2 of the 5 male deaths occurring in the age group 45/54.

As I reported last year, no-one can be in doubt any longer of the relationship between this disease and cigarette smoking. The need for further propaganda amongst young people, especially school children, remains only too evident.

In February 1969 a Report was prepared to re-open discussion on the Sacombe Main Sewerage project with the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, indicating that the present system of sewage disposal

disposal/

in that village constituted a danger to public health. Subsequently a deputation from this Council attended the Ministry to press the urgent need for a main drainage scheme. As the Council will know information was received later in the year that the Government policy of restriction of capital expenditure on this scheme had been lifted and the work was to be allowed to proceed.

During the early part of the year I visited all the applicants on the Glebe Court housing list and found, not altogether to my surprise, that some who had had their names added to the list in the past did not in fact wish to move. The waiting list was therefore brought up-to-date and all new applicants since then have been visited to establish their priority need for admission, if any. As a result, the waiting list for admission is now quite short, and applicants may hope to be admitted within a reasonable time after their names have been added to the list.

One rather odd result of the general increase in holidays overseas amongst the general population, has been the increase in the number of Vaccination Certificates to be authenticated by this Authority. In 1969, 119 such certificates were signed.

Once again, I would like to place on record the ready assistance and helpful guidance given to me by the Senior Health Inspector, Mr. H. E. Gilby and the Deputy Health Inspector, Mr. J. Martindale, during the year. I am most grateful to them.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

P. de Bec Turtle,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT - STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Surg. Capt. P. de Bec Turtle, V.R.D.*, M.A., B.M.B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

DEPUTY (PART-TIME) MEDICAL OFFCER OF HEALTH

Dr. Gordon M. Frizelle, T.D., M.D., D.P.H.,

HEALTH INSPECTORS

Senior Health Inspector (and Surveyor) H.E. GILBY

Certificate of the R.S.I. and S.I.E.J. Board.
Certificate for Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods.

Deputy Health Inspector J. MARTINDALE

Certificate of the R.S.I. and S.I.E.J. Board
Certificate for Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods.

Health Department

Council Offices,
Wallfields,
Pegs Lane, Hertford.

Tel: Hertford 3006 (3 lines)

Clerical duties in the Health Department were carried out by

Mrs. B. Wilkinson and Mrs. K. Cooper

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Public Health matters were dealt with by the General Purposes Committee the Chairman of which for the Session 1969/70 was Councillor, Mr. Nigel Bowyer.

Sub-standard housing was dealt with by the Housing Committee, the Chairman of which for the Session 1969/70 was Councillor, Mr. F. J. Redman.

SECTION A

VITAL STATISTICS AND GENERAL STATISTICS

(Figures for 1968 are shown in brackets)

(Table 1)

POPULATION

Estimated Mid-Year Population of Hertford Rural District

Registrar General's Estimate	11,780	(11,530)
Total increase	250	

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	31,743
Number of Occupied Properties according to rate books :-	3,887

Number of properties per acre	-	0.12
Number of persons per acre	-	0.36
Number of persons per house	-	3.03
Rateable value of District	-	£476,203
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	-	£2,025 (estimated)

VITAL STATISTICS AND GENERAL STATISTICS 1969

(Table 2)

(Figures for 1968 are shown in brackets)

BIRTHS

Standardised Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	18.0	(18.75)
Area Comparability Factor for Births	1.06	(1.06)

Number of Live Births	Males	Females	TOTAL
	103	97	200
Legitimate	96	90	186
Illegitimate	7	7	14
Number of Still Births	2	-	2

.....

DEATHS

Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 population	10.2	(11.1)
Area Comparability Factor for Deaths	1.22	(1.22)

Number of Deaths	Males	Females	TOTAL
	59	40	99
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	1	1	2
Number under 4 weeks of age	-	1	1
Number under 1 week of age	-	1	1

Death of Infants under 1 year of age
Rate per 1,000 Live Births 10 (20)

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during 1969 :-

Disease	All ages	Under 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	Over 60
Scarlet Fever	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Measles	12	-	7	5	-	-	-
Typhi-Murium	2	-	-	-	-	2	-

Incidence of Diseases during the different months :-

Disease	Month	No. of Cases
Measles	January	5
	February	2
	March	1
	April	2
	May	1
	July	1
Scarlet Fever	June	1
Typhi-Murium	October	2

Incidence of Diseases amongst the different Parishes during 1969 :-

Parish	Disease	No. of Cases
Bengeo Rural	Typhi-Murium	2
Benington	Measles	2
Datchworth	Measles	1
Hertingfordbury	Measles	1
Hertingfordbury	Scarlet Fever	1
Little Amwell	Measles	1
Sacombe	Measles	1
Tewin	Measles	2
Watton-at-Stone	Measles	4

TUBERCULOSIS

The following is a summary of Tuberculosis Notifications etc. during 1969

After taking into account deaths, new cases etc., the year commenced with 44 cases on the Register :-

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Males	23	2
Females	13	6
Inward transfers from other areas:	-	-
Outward transfers from other areas:	-	-
The year ended with 48 cases on the register, viz:-		
Males	24	2
Females	15	6
Female (inward transfer)	1	-

BREAKDOWN ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH

Cause of Death	Sex	All Ages	Under 4 wks	4 wks & under 1 year	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 ov
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine.	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus.	M	7	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	3
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast.	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Leukaemia	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	1	-
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Other Diseases of Nervous system etc.	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	M	19	-	-	-	1	1	-	7	5	5
	F	8	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	4
Other Forms of Heart Disease	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cerebrovascular Disease	M	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	4
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	2
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Influenza	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Pneumonia	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4
Bronchitis and Emphysema	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Nephritis & Nephrosis	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary system	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Congenital Anomalies	M	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other accidents	M	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Suicide & Self-Inflicted injuries	M	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	59	-	1	2	1	1	5	16	15	18
	F	40	1	-	-	-	-	6	8	5	20

Note: No deaths in the 1-4 & 5-14 Age Groups

S E C T I O N B

The County Council is responsible for the following health and welfare services in respect of which full details may be obtained from the Health and Welfare Department, County Hall, Hertford. Telephone No: Hertford 4242.

A. HEALTH SERVICES

Clinics which serve Hertford Rural District

Health Centre, Bull Plain, Hertford.

Ante Natal and Post Natal	- Thursday 10.30 - 12.00 noon.
Infant Welfare	- Wednesday 1.45 - 4.00 p.m.
General Clinic for School Children	- 4th Tuesday in each month.
Dental and Orthodontic	- By appointment (tel: Hertford 3259)
Speech Therapy	- All day Friday.
Relaxation Classes - Mothercare	- Monday 2.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. Application to Health Centre, Bull Plain, Hertford.

Sele Farm Clinic, Hollybush School, Hertford.

Infant Welfare	- Fridays 2.00 - 4.00 p.m.

Transport is available from Waterford and Framfield areas, Telephone Hertford 3711.

Bengeo Infants School.

Infant Welfare	- Tuesdays 10.00 - 12.00 noon.

Village Hall, Hertford Heath

Infant Welfare	- 1st and 3rd Tuesdays 2.30 - 4.00 p.m.

Village Hall, Datchworth.

Infant Welfare	- 1st Tuesdays, 2.00 - 4.00 p.m.

Memorial Hall, Watton-at-Stone

Infant Welfare	- 2nd and 4th Wednesdays 2.30 - 4.00 p.m.

Parochial Hall, Benington

Infant Welfare	- 3rd Wednesday, 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.

Village Hall, Tewin.

Infant Welfare - 2nd Monday 2.30 - 4.00 p.m.

Church Hall, Walkern

Infant Welfare - 1st Thursday, 2.30 - 4.00 p.m.

A Family Planning Clinic is held at the Health Centre, Bowling Road, Ware, on Monday and Thursday evenings.

Immunisation and Vaccination

All parents are advised to take advantage of this service which can be obtained from their family doctors or at any of the Infant Welfare Centres mentioned.

The following table gives the latest recommendations of the County Medical Officer :-

6 months	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough. POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
8 months	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough. POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
13 months	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough. POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
15 months	MEASLES
16 months	SMALLPOX
School entry	POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
School entry	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus
School entry	SMALLPOX re-vaccination (one month after other booster)

Care and After-Care

Equipment can be issued on loan to patients being nursed at home. A Medical Loan Department has been established at the British Red Cross Society, 10 Cowbridge. Helpers are present for distribution of equipment on Mondays to Fridays at 9.30 a.m. - 12 noon.

A Cytology Clinic is held at the Clinic, Bull Plain, Hertford on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday for all women. Telephone Monday and Wednesday mornings 9 - 12 noon. Telephone Hertford 3597.

Treatment for V.D. is available at the following centres

Bishop's Stortford

Herts & Essex General Hospital - Tuesday 9.00 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. (Males and Females)

Hitchin

Lister Hospital - Tuesday 1.00 p.m. (Males and Females)

St. Albans

St. Albans City Hospital - Tuesday 4.00 p.m. and Thursday 12.30 p.m. (Males and Females)

Watford

Shrodells Hospital - Monday and Wednesday 4 - 6.0 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. - 12 noon. (Males and Females)

B SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES

(i) Homes for Old People

Application for admission to the County Council's Homes for old people needing care and attention should be addressed to the Divisional Social Worker, Social Work Unit, Westfield, West Street, Hertford (Telephone 3145)

(ii) Home Help

Application for this service should be made to the Home Help Organiser, Health Centre, Bull Plain, Hertford (Tel: 3232), office hours 8.45 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. and 2.00 p.m. - 5.15 p.m. Charges vary according to financial circumstances; applicants being assessed in accordance with the County Council's assessment scale.

(iii) Chiropody Service

This service is confined to the elderly (males aged sixty-five years and over; females aged sixty years and over), the physically handicapped (those substantially and permanently handicapped) and the expectant mother. Such persons must also either be in receipt of supplementary benefit from the Department of Health and Social Security, or be in similar financial circumstances. Application forms are obtainable from chiropodists, general practitioners, members of the County nursing staff and social work staff, and other persons connected with the care of the elderly and the physically handicapped. Applications should be submitted to the County Medical Officer. Eligible persons receive treatment without charge.

(iv) Old People's Welfare

There are several social clubs for the elderly in the district - The Hertford Evergreen Club is held in Bircherley Street on Monday and Friday afternoons from 3 - 6 p.m. The Parishes of Datchworth, Hertford Heath and Watton-at-Stone also have their old people's social clubs.

The Secretary of the Hertfordshire Old People's Welfare Council, the Old Forge, Sawbridgeworth (Tel: 3278) will be pleased to furnish details of other clubs in the rural district.

(v) Meals on Wheels

At present hot meals are served in the Benington and Watton areas, there are organisers also at Aston and Cole Green, which can operate when the need arises. Enquiries should be made to Mrs. Sewell, W.R.V.S., County Meals Organiser, Baker Street, Hertford (Tel: 3670).

(vi) Welfare Service for the general classes of the Handicapped and the Deaf

Advice on the services available for the deaf and those persons who are permanently and substantially handicapped is obtainable from the Divisional Social Worker, Social Work Unit, Westfield, West Street, Hertford (Tel: 3145).

(vii) Welfare Services for the Blind and Partially Sighted

Information on this service may be had from the Blind Welfare Officer, 2 The Wash, Hertford (Tel: 3201).

(viii) Mental Health

Arrangements for mental treatment on the recommendation of a Medical Practitioner are made by a Social Worker, Social Work Unit, Westfield, West Street, Hertford (Tel: 3145).

Help for Mentally Subnormal persons can be obtained by application to the County Medical Officer.

(viii) Mental Health (Contd.)

The Training Centres are run daily - Monday to Friday - the adult centres are at Green Street, Hertford for males and at Marsh Lane, Ware, for females and close only for a week at Christmas and Whitsun and two weeks in midsummer. The Junior Centre is at St. Margaretsbury, Stanstead Abbotts and is open during the ordinary school terms. A Club for the mentally subnormal is held at Morgans Walk School, Hertford. Information can be obtained from Mr. R. Larman, Hon. Secretary, Hertford Society for Mentally Handicapped Children, 25 Woodhall Close, Hertford.

S E C T I O N C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

REPORT OF THE SENIOR HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1969.

INTRODUCTION

It is a plesure to report that once again steady progress was maintained in improving the environmental health conditions of the area.

Though this progress has not been as spectacular as in previous years, with the advent of new legislation, especially in the field of housing, it is anticipated that the work of the Health Department will gather momentum during the forthcoming year.

In recent years the provision of main drainage has been one of the major contributions towards improving the health conditions in the area, this came to a halt in 1968 when the scheme for sewering the Parish of Sacombe did not receive Ministry approval owing to the Government's policy of restricting capital expenditure temporarily. This restriction has now been lifted and the work allowed to proceed.

Details of the work of the Health Department will be found under their respective headings set out in the Table showing the Development of Undertakings and Services for the district.

WATER SUPPLIES

Water for the area is supplied by the Lee Valley Water Co. and the Metropolitan Water Board, in addition there are various private wells serving individual properties in the outlying districts.

Both Water undertakings provide information on the quality and quantity of the water supplied to the area, and the following is an extract from those reports :-

	Chemical Samples	Bacteriological
Metropolitan Water Board	4	511
Lee Valley Water Board	18	481
	22	992

In addition to these samples, your own officer submitted to the Public Health Laboratory 8 samples from the public supplies for bacteriological examination.

Two samples were obtained from a shallow well used as a domestic supply and 6 samples from a deep well used in the manufacture of mineral water.

All samples, on examination, were found to be satisfactory.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The year under review is the second consecutive year in which no major sewage scheme was in progress, consequently the reduction in the number of septic tanks and cesspools is not as great as in previous years.

There were 19 cesspools or septic tanks abolished during the year and the drainage of these properties connected to the sewer. 2 pail closets were also abolished and cesspool drainage provided in lieu thereof.

The following Table indicates the percentage of houses in each Parish which are connected to main drainage (as at December 1969)

Parish	No. of Houses	Houses connected in current year	Total houses connected	Percentage
ASTON	239	4	184	76.9%
BAYFORD	153	13	103	67.3%
BENGEO RURAL	158	-	128	81.0%
BENINGTON	260	7	240	92.3%
BRAMFIELD	91	-	75	82.4%
BRICKENDON	160	1	63	39.3%
DATCHWORTH	512	24	467	91.2%
HERTINGFORDBURY	248	3	210	84.6%
LITTLE AMWELL	446	2	420	94.1%
LITTLE BERKHAMSTED	183	1	75	40.8%
SACOMBE	77	-	-	-
STAPLEFORD	219	-	197	90.0%
TEWIN	410	10	364	88.7%
WALKERN	330	31	257	77.8%
WATTON-AT-STONE	513	3	467	91.0%

SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS

Due to the progressive policy of the Council in providing main drainage to connect to the trunk sewers which pass through the district, there are now only four sewage disposal works in the area. These works are subject to routine inspections and the effluent produced is, from time to time, tested with a field testing outfit. All samples came up to Royal Commission Standard.

A small works attached to a local school is maintained by contract by the Council on behalf of the County Council, and during the year an unsatisfactory effluent was being produced. The County authorities decided that the works should be refurbished by renewing the media in the primary filter and also in the sand filters, together with other remedial works.

The effluent now produced is satisfactory. A total of 14 samples of effluent was tested and all except one was found to be satisfactory in all respects.

There were 466 visits made by the officers in controlling and managing all aspects of sewage disposal for the area.

SEWAGE PUMPING STATIONS

As some parts of the district cannot be drained by gravitation into the trunk sewers, it is necessary for the sewage to be pumped to the point of discharge.

There are in all 9 pumping stations serving 6 Parishes; in four of the stations the equipment consists of solids diverter units, the remaining five stations are of the normal wet well type with Adams 'Amphistoma' pumps. The size of pump and motors used depending on the rate of sewage to be discharged.

Regular visits are made to each station and apart from minor electrical troubles, no serious difficulty with the plant has arisen during the year.

REFUSE COLLECTION

This service continues to operate satisfactorily, however, due to the increase in the number of houses, it will be necessary to reorganise the collection rounds in the very near future.

A few mechanical problems arose with the refuse collection vehicles, these were however overcome without too much difficulty and no major complaints were received about the service.

BULKY REFUSE COLLECTION

The Council's decision to operate a free service for the disposal of bulky items of a household nature continues in the main to be successful, though there are certain types of individuals who will still persist in despoiling the countryside by the indiscriminate dumping of mattresses, bed frames etc., on roadside verges; woods and hedgerows.

In a further attempt to prevent this type of nuisance, the Council resolved to provide and fix dispensable notices at various places bringing to the attention of such individuals the penalties under the Civic Amenities Act 1967 for indiscriminate dumping.

It is interesting to note that during the year, 260 applications were received for the Council's bulky refuse service - this being identical with the previous year's figure.

The revenue received from the 45 chargeable applications, i.e. items not of a household nature amounted to £96.

TRADE REFUSE

Though the Council do not operate a general trade refuse collection service in the area, due to the small number of trade premises, arrangements

TRADE REFUSE (contd.)

have been made to remove trade refuse from 3 establishments who produce more refuse than the normal weekly roundsmen can handle. These premises are served by a special collection at an agreed sum per visit, and the amount of revenue received from these arrangements amounted to £213.4.0.

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT 1967

The negotiations which were in progress to acquire a site for persons to dispose of refuse under Section 18 of this Act, have now at last been completed and the land, part of which is to be used for other purposes, is at present being surveyed.

A total of 15 abandoned vehicles were removed from the roadside and a further 9 on application by residents in the area.

The total cost of removing all these vehicles, which was carried out by a private contractor amounted to £24.0.0. and £9.0.0. was recovered from various owners.

During the year a total of 160 visits were made for the administration of this Act.

DEVELOPMENT OF UNDERTAKINGS AND SERVICES

The following Table indicates the growth of the District and the increase in the demand for the Council's services :-

SERVICE	31st March 1952 being Datum	30th Sept. 1969	
	Number	Number	Datum
Estimated Population	8,600	12,615	149.01
Houses in District	2,562	4,005	156.31
SEWERAGE			
Houses Connected	980	3,217	328.26
Staff Engaged	4.18	4.67	111.17
CESSPOOL EMPTYING			
Houses with cesspools	1,155	673	58.26
Loads of Sewage Removed	1,648	875	53.09
Staff Engaged	2.4	2.05	85.41
REFUSE COLLECTION (including bulky refuse)			
Houses served (adjusted to weekly collection)	1,276 (2,552 fortnightly)	4,000	156.73
Staff Engaged	3.27	8.56	261.16

SUMMARY OF VISITS BY THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR 1969

Factories Act	18
Food and Drugs Act	
Food Premises	26
Housing Acts	
Inspections and interviews	12
Improvement Grants,(including revisits).....	222
Public Health Acts	
Complaints	68
Infectious Diseases	11
Refuse Collection	107
Sewerage Control	466
Water Supplies	22
Closet Conversions (including revisits).....	6
Rodent Control	3
Civic Amenities Act	160
Building Regulations (Drainage Connections) etc.	82
Miscellaneous, including office interviews	180

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

Details of registration and licences in force and further particulars concerning food premises are as follows :-

Ice Cream Premises

There are 32 premises registered for the sale of ice cream. No manufacturing of this article takes place in the area.

Preserved Food

(a) Sausage Manufacture	2
(b) Other preserved food manufacturers	1

Food Premises by Type of Business

Bakery with shops	3
Butcher	3
Cafe	2
Greengrocery	1
Grocery and General	21
Canteens, including school canteens	21
Public Houses	35
Mineral Water Factory	1
Cold Store (Salmon processing)	1

Food premises were inspected from time to time under the Food Hygiene Regulations and various works were carried out by the occupants.

A complaint was received regarding mouldy meat pies being sold, this was investigated and no blame could be apportioned to the manufacturers. A detailed inspection of invoices, delivery tickets, etc. indicated that there was no proper rotation of stock. No legal action was instituted.

HOUSING ACTS

The improvement of dwellings is still forming one of the principal duties of the members of the Health Department, though the records for 1969 show a reduction in the number of applications for improvement grants.

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

During the year only 5 applications were received for this type of grant and all were approved.

There were 12 grant schemes completed. The total approved cost of all the work for these grants amounted to £15,759 and the amount of grant money paid out in respect of these completions amounted to £4,277.

STANDARD GRANTS

In this type of grant, 11 applications were received for the installation of basic amenities and 12 grant schemes were completed.

The type of housing improvement work varied from providing a single amenity to the construction of complete bathrooms. In the latter cases these applications warranted the improved type of standard grant.

Taking into account outstanding work, a total of 18 grant payments were made during the year and the actual cost of providing these amenities per the builders' accounts amounted to £6,008 whilst a total sum of £2,309 was paid to the applicants.

SUBSTANDARD PROPERTY

The following Table indicates the progress with the demolition of unfit property.

Demolition Orders made	1
Demolition Orders complied with	1
Houses demolished by agreement	3
Undertakings accepted for repair (section 16).	Nil

The total number of visits made for the purposes of action under the Housing Acts, including improvement grant work was 234.

HOUSING PROGRESS

The following Table shows the progress which has been made with new housing (as specified in the Housing Consolidated Regulations) :-

	During 1969	Since 1945	TOTAL
BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE			
New dwellings erected	54	1061	1115
Conversions or adaptations in terms of family units.	Nil	43	43
BY LOCAL AUTHORITY			
New dwellings erected	30	944	974
BY OTHER AUTHORITIES			
(County Council, Police, Forestry Commission etc.)	Nil	12	12
TOTAL PROPERTIES CONTROLLED BY LOCAL AUTHORITY			
Council Houses	1214	-	1214

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

Complaints received during the year amounted to 68, this being an increase of seven over the preceding year.

All complaints were remedied without recourse to Statutory action except in one case when it was found necessary to institute proceedings under the Public Health Act 1936, for an Abatement Notice to be complied with and a Magistrates Order was subsequently made and though no penalty was awarded, the Court granted the Council ten guineas costs against the defendant.

Every effort has been made during the year to encourage owners with property which has sub-standard drainage to improve their existing sanitary accommodation, if necessary, with financial assistance under Section 47 of the Public Health Act 1936.

There were two houses with pail closets converted during the year, leaving a total of 39 to be dealt with and 20 properties which had septic tanks or cesspool drainage connected to the main sewerage system. 19 cesspools or septic tanks were abolished.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949.

As in previous years, all the work of pest control was carried out under contract by Messrs. Rentokil Ltd. (Pest Control) Division.

This work includes general complaints, regular inspections and treatment of all Council owned property, sewage works, pumping stations etc.

The following Table, which is collated from reports issued by the pest contractors indicate the type of premises visited and action taken :-

PREMISES	Number of Premises		Type of Infestation			
	Inspected	Serviced	Rats	Mice	Insects	Wasps Nests
L.A.Premises	40	40	14	-	-	-
Council Dwellings	94	50	29	1	1	17
Private Dwellings	125	79	36	4	-	35
Agricultural Premises	12	12	9	-	-	-
Business Premises	27	30	28	21	-	-

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

ADMINISTRATION OF THE ACT 1969.

In reviewing the work for 1969, the Officer responsible for carrying out the important duties under this Act was enabled to devote slightly more time to this work.

The year commenced with 32 premises on the Register and during the year an additional office premises was located and registered accordingly. Two premises were removed from the Register, one having moved outside the jurisdiction of this Local Authority and the other being transferred to H.M. Factory Inspectorate. This transfer was brought about by an addition to the business which reclassified the premises as a factory under the Factories Act.

A total of 30 inspections were made to registered premises, as and when time permitted, all but 6 of those registered received at least one inspection during the year.

The results of the inspections, comments and contraventions etc. remedied as follows :-

Section 4- Cleanliness

The standard of cleanliness was satisfactory, in one instance complete redecorations were carried out to one office building and one informal notice issued against one premises.

Section 5- Overcrowding

There was no case of overcrowding.

Section 7- Temperature and Ventilation

Heating facilities and temperature controls were adequate. Requests were made in three instances for the provision of thermometers. There were no problems concerning ventilation.

Section 8- Lighting

The standard of lighting was found to be satisfactory.

Section 9- Sanitary Conveniences

The provisions and conditions of the sanitary conveniences in the premises inspected were found to be adequate. The year saw the completion of sanitary facilities for both male and female employees in one office building.

Section 10- Washing Facilities

In two premises, though washing facilities were provided, it was necessary to press the occupiers to provide hot water for their staff. This work was eventually completed.

Section 11- Drinking Water

No action was found to be necessary under this Section of the Act.

Section 16--Dangerous Machinery

Inspections revealed that in 4 general stores, the old style circular bacon slicer was in use, requests were made for the narrow guard to be replaced with one of the broad variety. At the time of writing this Report one machine has been altered, the work is in hand to the other three machines.

Section 48- Notification of Accidents

There have been no notifications of accidents during the year.

Section 50 - Information to Employees

It was necessary to request the provision of the official Abstract of the Act in 3 instances.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecured (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	-	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	30	18	3	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	30	18	3	-

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	to H.M. Inspector (4)	by H.M Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	1	-	1	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	1	-	1	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORKERS

(Sections 133 & 134)

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134	
	No. of outworkers in August List required by Section (133(1)(e)	No. of Cases of default in sending Lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply Lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served and/or Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6) (7)
Basket making	-	-	-	-	- -
Wearing) Making apparel) etc.,)Cleaning) and)washing	4	-	-	-	- -
Artificial flowers	-	-	-	-	- -
Making of false eyelashes	4	-	-	-	- -
TOTAL	8	-	-	-	- -